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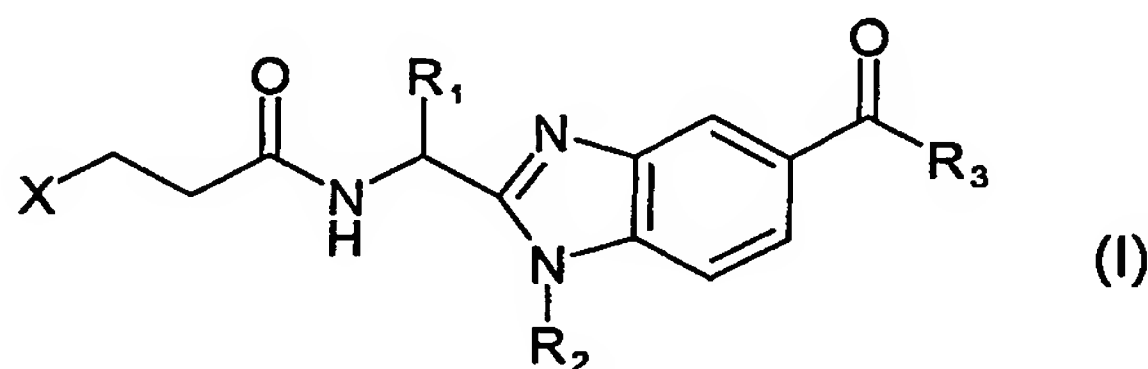
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(54) Title: BENZIMIDAZOLE DERIVATIVES AND USE THEREOF AS PEPTIDE DEFORMYLASE INHIBITORS



(57) Abstract: Benzimidazole compounds of the general  
formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters  
thereof are peptide deformylase inhibitors useful in the  
treatment or prevention of infections and other diseases  
in which peptide deformylases are involved, especially  
in the treatment of bacterial and parasitic infections, for  
example infections fully or partly caused by microorganisms  
belonging to *Staphylococcus*, *Enterococcus*, *Streptococcus*,  
*Haemophilus*, *Moraxella*, *Escherichia*, *Mycobacterium*,  
*Campylobacter*, *Legionella*, or *Neisseria*.